

Who is the Science Collaborative?

- University of New Hampshire Team
- NOAA Estuarine Research Division
- 28 NERRS
- Coastal Communities
- Purpose:
 - fosters multidisciplinary, collaborative research,
 - works as part of the NERRS, makes available effective, science-based tools,
 - catalyzes collaboration across geographic and organizational boundaries,
 - addresses barriers to the application of science.



Issues Areas Identified for the Science Collaborative Grant

- Changing land use
- Habitat change and restoration
- Estuarine contamination
- Storm water management

 All of the above are in the context of the needs of local communities surrounding the NERRS



Big Goal: funding science that gets applied

- Resources to integrate science and management
- Engagement of intended users throughout the process
- Process to ensure funds are distributed fairly
- External perspectives to insure broader relevance



KBRR Science Collaborative Idea Statement

- Earthquakes
 - Since a major earthquake in 1964, models have projected uplift of up to 60cm in the Bay area.
 - The model was based on a limited number of sites near Kachemak Bay.
- Glaciers are melting at a fairly rapid rate
 - The weight released from the earth's surface as glaciers retreat has caused rebound or uplift in some areas in Alaska.
- Regional Sea Level Rise
 - Important to understand sea level rise projections in the context of land level change
- The waters in Kachemak Bay are fed by 15 glaciers
 - The increased melt water is rich in nutrients and sediments which influence the community ecology in the Bay.



What We Hope to Accomplish

- A final report that summarizes land and sea level changes in our area and provide information to our partners in a useful and efficient way to assist with local decision making processes
- Establishment of long-term monitoring sites to continue to monitor changes beyond the study period
- Develop a team of well trained Citizen Scientists who can participate in the long-term monitoring
- Through outreach and education, identify additional users of the information generated



How will this be accomplished?

 We will be evaluating and adapting our list of project outcomes through our regularly scheduled meetings

 We will be getting a little bit of mud on us in the local salt marshes

 We all will be learning something useful!

